



NIDDERDALE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the year 1953

by

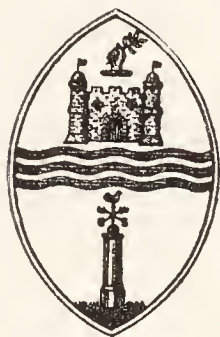
D. D. PAYNE, M.D., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health



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THE HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1953

Chairman : Major Whately Thompson, J.P.

Vice-Chairman : Colonel S. Rhodes, C.B., D.S.O.

Councillors:

Addy, R. J.	Gregson, A. T.
Ambler, Major E.	Hardcastle, J. A.
Ashton, F. H.	Hildreth, F.
Bellerby, W.	Hodgson, J. H. C., J.P.
Booth, H. E.	Meysey-Thompson, Col., O.V.C.
Brunskill, Brig. G. S., M.C., C.B.E.	Nelson, Thomas J.
Cariss, J. W. D.	Powell, Baden
Cooper, J., J.P.	Proctor, H.
Crowther, A. C.	Skirrow, W.
Cundall, A.	Slater, E.
Dent, J. H.	Stead, Mrs. E.
Featherston, Capt. W. H., M.B.E.	Yewdall, C. D.
J.P.	Yeoman, G. R.

NIDDERDALE RURAL DISTRICT

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health :

D. D. PAYNE, M.D., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

P. S. R. BURRELL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Engineer, Surveyor and Chief Sanitary Inspector:

W. H. DINGSDALE, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,

Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

G. TEALE, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,

Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Clerical Staff : Engineer, Surveyor and Health Department.

Miss D. I. ANDERTON.

Miss P. BAILEY

Miss M. KIRK.

To the Chairman and Members of the

NIDDERDALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your information and consideration my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of your district for the year 1953.

Dr. Mary Pullan commenced her duties as Assistant County Medical Officer at the beginning of the year and the medical staff of the Health Department was thereby restored to its full strength. As a consequence, more head-way was made in the work of the School Medical Service, medical inspections taking place in all the rural schools.

On examining the vital statistics of the area the low death rate and infant mortality rate will be noted with satisfaction, the death rate for Nidderdale being 9.1 compared with 11.4 for England and Wales and the infant mortality being 19.5 per thousand live births compared with 26.5 for the whole country.

It is well known in studies of population statistics that mortality rates and infant mortality increase proportionately with the density of people per room. The greater risk of infection in overcrowded dwellings is obvious — in this district there is an average of 0.67 persons per room in households occupying separate dwellings and 0.85 in the small minority of households occupying shared dwellings—these figures compare favourably with 0.76 and 1.11 respectively for the County of the West Riding of Yorkshire.

Angina pectoris or coronary disease of the heart occurs least commonly in agricultural labourers whilst in doctors it is one of the highest causes of death, possibly an indication of the nervous strain of the work, but apart from this agricultural workers have very favourable life expectancy compared with other occupations.

Again rural areas have lower mortalities than cities from respiratory disease such as bronchitis, probably owing to the absence of dust and smoke. The mortality rate from respiratory diseases in Nidderdale in 1953 was 0.84 as against a figure of 1.30 for the Administrative County. These facts reflect some of the advantages of living and working in a rural area.

I desire to acknowledge the support and assistance I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Council and to record my appreciation of the work of Mr. Dingsdale and his staff.

I am,

Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. D. PAYNE,
Medical Officer of Health.

August, 1954.

General Statistics, 1953

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	75,009
Population (mid-summer, 1953 estimated, by the Registrar-General) mid-year estimate of population for the Area as now constituted	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,560
Rateable Value, March, 1953	...	...	...	...	...	...	£71,103
Produce of a Penny Rate, March, 1953	...	...	...	...	...	...	£279-15-4
Live Births :	Males		Females		Total		
Legitimate, 104	}	108	Legitimate, 93	}	97		205
Illegitimate, 4			Illegitimate, 4				
Crude Birth Rate (Live births per 1,000 of the estimated population.	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.2
*Corrected Birth Rate (per 1,000 of the estimated population,	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.3
Still Births :	Males		Females		Total		
Legitimate, 3	}	4	Legitimate, 1	}	1		5
Illegitimate, 1			Illegitimate, 0				
Still Births—Rate per 1,000 (live and still) Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	23.8
Number of Deaths—Males 83, Females 60	...	...	...	...	...	...	143
Crude Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.2
*Corrected Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.1
Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth abortion	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths of Infants under one year of age :							Total
	Males		Females				
Legitimate 1	}	1	Legitimate 3	}	3		4
Illegitimate 0			Illegitimate 0				
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :							
All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	19.5
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.3
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.0
	Rate (per 1,000 population)						
Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis—Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.0
Deaths from other Tuberculous Diseases—Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.0
Deaths from Infective and Parasitic Diseases, (excluding Tuberculosis) 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.06
Deaths from Vascular lesions of the nervous system, 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.90
Deaths from Heart and Circulatory Diseases. 67	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.31
Deaths from Cancer. 23	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.48
Deaths from Respiratory Diseases. 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.84

*Adjusted by Area Comparability factors supplied by the Registrar-General which adjust for the changing age structure of the population (Births 1.24 and Deaths 0.99).

Causes of Death in Nidderdale Rural District, 1953

Causes of Death						Male	Female
All Causes						83	60
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	—	—
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	—	—
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	—	—
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
8	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	—	1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	2	2
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	3	2
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	—	—
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	—	1
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	7	5
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	1	—
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	—	—
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	6	8
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	15	7
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	2	3
20	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	18	20
21	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	2	—
22	Influenza	...	...	...	...	—	—
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	3	1
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	5	2
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	1	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	—	—
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	1	—
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	3	—
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	1	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	—	—
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	—	1
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	2	4
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	5	—
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	4	2
35	Suicide	...	...	...	...	2	—
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	—	—
Total						143	

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

1. POPULATION.

The population estimated by the Registrar General at the middle of 1953 was 15,560, an increase of 310 over the estimated population for the previous year.

2. SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The chief industry of the district is agriculture and the communal life in every village is based upon farming.

3. BIRTHS.

(a) Live Births.

The number of live births registered during 1953 given by the Registrar General, and corrected for inward and outward transfers, was 205, 108 males and 97 females. This was an increase on the figure for the previous year which was 165.

The crude birth rate was 13.2 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, when adjusted by the comparability factor (1.24) as given by the Registrar General, the birth rate was increased to 16.3. This was 0.8 above the rate for England and Wales (15.5).

There were 8 illegitimate live births, 4 males and 4 females, representing 3.9 per cent of the live births.

(b) Still Births.

5 still-births were registered during the year, 4 males and 1 female, as compared with 4 in 1952. The still-birth rate per thousand population was 0.32 as compared with the still-birth rate of 0.35 for England and Wales.

4. Deaths.

The number of deaths for the year corrected by the Registrar General for inward and outward transfers was 143, of which 83 were males and 60 were females. The crude death rate was 9.2, but the death rate adjusted by the comparability factor supplied by the Registrar General was 9.1 which was 2.3 lower than the rate for England and Wales (11.4).

Infant Mortality.

There were 4 deaths of infants under one year of age, 1 male and 3 females, compared with 3 during the previous year. The infant mortality rate was 19.5 per thousand live births which compares favourably with the rate of 26.8 for England and Wales.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

1. PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

The names and qualifications of these are set out on page 4.

2. HEALTH SERVICES.

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

The chemical analysis of water is carried out by Messrs. Richardson and Jaffe Bradford. The assessment of plumbosolvency is undertaken by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Wakefield.

The examination of clinical material, throat swabs, etc., is undertaken at the Public Health Laboratory at the Harrogate General Hospital. Water, milk and other foodstuffs are also bacteriologically examined at this laboratory.

Nidderdale is fortunate in having a public health laboratory situated so close at hand. Dr. L. A. Little is the bacteriologist in charge of this laboratory, and there is the closest co-operation between Dr. Little and the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector.

The services of the laboratory are most valuable when there is an outbreak of infection or suspected cases of food poisoning.

(b) Ambulance Facilities.

Ambulance facilities are provided by the West Riding County Council from an area depot situated at the Parade Garage, Harrogate, with sub-depots covering the outer areas at

Ripon and Pateley Bridge. The service is provided free under the National Health Service Act and covers removal of infectious cases to hospital.

Of the 6 ambulances, 3 are equipped with short wave transmission and reception apparatus, enabling information to be passed to and from a central control. By this means, ambulances can be diverted to accidents and other emergencies and can save life and time.

3. DIVISIONAL HEALTH SERVICES.

Full details of the Divisional Health Services regarding Division No. 8 which covers the areas of Harrogate, Knaresborough and Nidderdale, and which are administered from the Divisional Health Office, Municipal Offices, Harrogate, have been circulated to all members of the Council.

These services include Maternity and Child Welfare, School Health and Dental, Care and After-care, Midwifery, Home Nursing, Home Help, and Mental Health Services.

Brief details of some of these services are given as follows:

(a) Health Visiting and School Nursing.

Health Visiting and School Nursing have been carried out in the district by a whole-time health visitor living at Hessay and by a part-time school nurse who is resident in Harrogate. Three other health visitors also resident in Harrogate undertake part-time duties in the Nidderdale Rural District.

(b) School Health Services.

These services are administered by the West Riding County Council through the Divisional School Medical Officer. School children are medically examined periodically at schools at routine medical inspections and any cases found to require treatment are referred where necessary, to their private practitioner, to the Minor Ailments Clinics which are held in Harrogate and Knaresborough, or to a Specialist Clinic in Knaresborough and Harrogate. These Specialist Clinics include Cardiac, Ophthalmic, Orthopaedic, Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics, and a Clinic for children with defective speech. There is also, in Harrogate, a General School Clinic for cases requiring a more complete medical examination than is possible at the schools.

942 children in attendance at schools in the Nidderdale Rural District were given routine medical examinations during the year.

Dental inspection of children is undertaken at the schools and treatment is provided by means of a Mobile Dental Treatment Outfit.

(c) Special Examination of Handicapped Children.

Special examinations are made where it is found that a child is educationally retarded, in certain cases special education is advised. There are 9 children resident in the Nidderdale Rural District who are educationally sub-normal of whom 4 are attending special residential schools for this purpose.

Children who are ineducable are reported to the Mental Deficiency Committee of the West Riding County Council. These cases are placed under supervision and are visited from time to time by the Mental Health Social Worker.

Other children who are physically handicapped are recommended for admission to special schools when this is considered desirable. 1 blind child, 2 partially sighted children. 2 deaf children, and 1 maladjusted child are also attending residential special schools.

(d) Children Leaving School.

There is close liaison with the Youth Employment Officer, and medical reports are made from time to time to the Youth Employment Officer on children who are leaving school and who are, in some way, handicapped. Information is given as to any occupation which would not be suitable for a particular child on medical grounds. Where the disability is severe, and the parents give consent in writing, more detailed medical reports are given in order that the case may be registered under the Disabled Persons Act. This Act gives certain advantages to disabled persons, these include priority in gaining suitable employment.

(e) Maternity Services.

193 births were notified in respect of Nidderdale residents during the year. Of these 59 confinements took place at home attended by domiciliary midwives. 74 births took place in the

maternity block of the Harrogate General Hospital, 18 in the Carlton Lodge Maternity Home, Harrogate, 18 in Ripon Maternity Home, and 24 in other institutions.

(f) Home Nursing.

Eight home nurses have undertaken work in the area during the year, and their services are much appreciated by the community. The majority of the work of the Home Nursing Service is amongst the elderly, particularly those who have some crippling defect and who are bed-ridden owing to chronic illness.

(g) Home Help Service.

At the end of the year 9 part-time home helps were employed in Nidderdale. The total number of hours worked during the year was 6,572.

Assistance was given to 54 cases, of these 10 were due to illness in the home, excluding illness of aged persons, and 26 related to illness or infirmity of the aged. In 3 cases where the mother had been admitted to hospital, a home help was provided to look after the children, and home helps were supplied to 1 expectant mother and 14 maternity cases thus enabling the mothers to have their babies at home.

(h) Child Welfare Centres.

These centres are held at Boroughbridge, Poppleton and Whixley.

In addition, an advice centre is held in a building provided by the Army authorities for the use of families of officers and men at the Hildebrand Barracks, Harrogate. On two afternoons each month the mothers bring their babies for advice from the health visitor and for weighing. Although there is no doctor in attendance, cases considered to require medical advice are referred to their general practitioners or to the main clinic at 2, Dragon Parade, Harrogate. Infant foods are available at this centre.

293 children attended at these centres during the year, making a total number of attendances of 2,336. Of these, 84 of the children attended for the first time.

(i) **Mobile Clinic.**

The West Riding County Council brought into use in June, a trailer caravan which is towed by a Land Rover for use as a mobile clinic. The caravan is divided into consulting room, complete with examination couch, toilet and weighing recesses, health visitor's interviewing corner and a small waiting space. This mobile clinic visits the villages of Hampsthwaite and Follifoot once per month and Burton Leonard every fortnight.

A medical officer and health visitor in this Division meet the vehicle at the appointed rendez-vous, it is also staffed by a permanent driver and nurse.

Mothers with children under five form the majority of users of the clinic, 68 such children attended making in all 223 attendances. Expectant mothers and school children are also seen on occasion. Immunisation against diphtheria and vaccinations are carried out and, in the case of the younger children, immunisation against whooping cough.

THE PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND THEIR CONTROL

The number of cases notified are set out in a table on page 17.

1. SCARLET FEVER.

37 cases of scarlet fever were notified as compared with 10 cases in 1952. 23 cases were admitted to the Isolation Hospital and 14 were isolated at home.

2. DIPHTHERIA.

No case of diphtheria was notified during the year.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The health visitors, during their visits to children under one year in particular, stress the need for diphtheria immunisation, and it is felt that personal persuasion of this character is the best form of propaganda.

216 immunisations were carried out during the year and in addition 481 reinforcing injections were given to children in whom the degree of immunity had been diminished by the length of time since their initial inoculation.

3. POLIOMYELITIS.

No case of poliomyelitis was notified during the year.

4. WHOOPING COUGH.

56 cases of whooping cough were notified during the year as compared with 31 in the previous year.

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION.

The number of whooping cough immunisations carried out during 1953 was 44.

5. MEASLES.

95 cases of measles were notified during the year as compared with 31 cases in 1952.

6. PNEUMONIA.

7 cases of pneumonia were notified during the year. One of the cases proved fatal.

7. DYSENTERY.

1 case of dysentery was notified during the year. This was in a member of H.M. Forces who was stationed at the R.A.F. Station at Rufforth. It seems probable that he contracted the illness during a home visit to Barnsley as, at that time, there was an epidemic of sonne dysentery in Barnsley.

8. PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

No case of puerperal pyrexia was notified during the year.

9. FOOD POISONING.

No case of food poisoning was notified during the year.

10. SMALLPOX.

No case of smallpox occurred in the area during the year.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION.

During the year 255 vaccinations against smallpox and 197 re-vaccinations were carried out in the area. The large number of vaccinations carried out during the year was undoubtedly due to the proximity of smallpox cases to the district. Cases of smallpox occurred in the County Borough of Leeds.

11. ERYSIPELAS.

2 cases of erysipelas were notified during the year.

12. MALARIA.

1 case of malaria was notified during the year. This was in a man serving in the R.A.F. and stationed at Rufforth. He had contracted the infection whilst serving abroad.

13. TUBERCULOSIS.

4 new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, 3 males and 1 female, and 3 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis, 1 male and 2 females, were notified during the year. 6 patients were admitted to Sanatoria and 3 patients removed from the area. 10 cases recovered and 1 case was removed from the register owing to revision of diagnosis. There was 1 death from tuberculosis during the year.

Age groups of notified cases of infectious diseases for the year 1953 :—

No of cases notified Ages — Years		Scarlet Fever	Pneumonia	Dysentery	Erysipelas	Measles	Whooping Cough	Malaria
Under 1	...	—	—	—	—	2	5	—
1 — 2	...	1	—	—	—	11	10	—
3 — 4	...	4	—	—	—	23	13	—
5 — 9	...	21	—	—	—	42	24	—
10 — 14	...	7	2	—	—	6	2	—
15 — 24	...	2	1	—	—	8	—	—
25 and over	...	2	4	1	2	3	2	1
Totals Notified		37	7	1	2	95	56	1
Number of cases admitted to Hospital		23	1	1	—	—	4	1
Total No. of Deaths of Notified Cases		—	1	—	—	—	—	—

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (Section 47)

No case of a person in need of care and attention and requiring removal to suitable premises arose in the area during the year.

(E) **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA**
1. Water Supplies (Paras (i) and (ii)).

TOWNSHIPS	Total Estimated Population	No. of Inhabited Houses	Population Supplied		Satisfactory in		Samples		
			Standpipes	Mains	Quality	Quantity	Bacteriological		Chemical
							Satis:	U/Sat.	
* Allerton-Mauleverer-with-Hopperton ...	160	43		17	Yes	Yes			
* Arkendale ...	132	44		98	Yes	Yes			
* Boroughbridge ...	1,847	554		1,798	Yes	Yes			
† Brearton ...	141	46		76	Yes	Yes			
* Burton Leonard ...	448	169	17	386	Yes	Yes	8	1	
* Cattal ...	140	37		110	Yes	Yes			
* Coneythorpe and Claretton ...	46	15		28	Yes	Yes			
Copgrove ...	66	24		Private Supply	Yes	Yes			
* Dunsforth Lower ...	113	22		62	Yes	Yes			
* Dunsforth Upper-with-Branton Green ...	146	40		139	Yes	Yes			
† Farnham ...	107	40		99	Yes	Yes			
Fellcliffe ...	280	79	(Raw water main)	70	Yes	Yes			
† Ferrensby ...	104	42		104	Yes	Yes			
† Flaxby ...	55	13		45	Yes	Yes			
† Follifoot ...	365	125		351	Yes (except 'g Aketon)	Yes			
† Goldsborough ...	157	49		121	Yes	Yes			
							8	1	

TOWNSHIPS	Total Estimated Population	No. of Inhabited Houses	Population Supplied		Satisfactory in		Samples		
			Standpipes	Mains	Quality	Quantity	Bacteriological		Chemical
							Satis.	U/Sat,	
*Great Ouseburn ...	249	115		236	Yes	Totals B/F Yes	8	1	
*Great Ribston-with Walshford ...	134	36		73	Yes	Yes	2		
*Green Hammerton ...	523	157		490	Yes	Yes			
†Hampsthwaite ...	579	192		502	Yes	Yes			
Haverah Park ...	54	12	Private Supply		Yes	Yes			
*Hessay ...	117	31		101	Yes	Yes			
*Hunsingore ...	121	39		112	Yes	Yes			
†Killinghall ...	2,206	307		1,180	Yes	Yes			
*Kirby Hall ...	31	11		19	Yes	Yes			
*Kirk Hammerton ...	381	130		364	Yes	Yes			
†Knapton ...	91	29		52	Yes	Yes			
Knareborough Outer ...	80	19	Private Supply		Yes	Yes			
*Little Ouseburn ...	206	67		199	Yes	Yes			
*Marton-with-Grafton ...	362	124		312	Yes	Yes	16		
†Moor Monkton ...	192	57		170	Yes	Yes			
Nidd ...	147	43	Private Supply		Yes	Yes			
*Nun Monkton ...	251	91		202	Yes	Yes		1	
†Pannal (Beckwithshaw) ...	261	86		231	Yes	Yes	26	2	

TOWNSHIPS	Total Estimated Population	No. of Inhabited Houses	Population Supplied		Satisfactory in		Samples		
			Standpipes	Mains	Quality	Quantity	Bacteriological		Chemical
							Satis.	U/Sat.	
†Plompton	114	29		101	Yes	Totals B/F.	26	2	
†Poppleton Nether	362	115		340	Yes	Yes			
†Poppleton Upper	633	236		613	Yes	Yes			
Ripley	191	63	Private Supply		Yes§	Yes	11	2	
*Roecliffe	179	54		151	Yes	Yes			
*Rufforth	658	84		289	Yes	Yes			
†Scotton	415	129		401	Yes	Yes			
†Scriven	204	43		204	Yes	Yes			
Stainley-with-Cayton	213	58	Private Supply		Yes	Yes			
*Staveley	300	107		289	Yes	Yes			
*Thornville	20	7		11	Yes	Yes			
*Thorpe Underwoods	133	36		80	Yes	Yes			
Walkingham-Hill-with Occaney	28	5	Private Supply		Yes	Yes			
Westwick	14	3	Private Supply		Yes	Yes			
*Whixley	737	161		482	Yes	Yes			
*Widdington	19	4		4	Yes	Yes			
14,512		4,062	§ Automatic Chlorinator now installed				37	4	—

†Parishes supplied by Harrogate Corporation Waterworks Department.

‡Parishes supplied by York Corporation Waterworks Department.

*Parishes supplied from Council's own undertaking.

Note. ANALYSIS OF BOROUGHBRIDGE AND DISTRICT WATER SUPPLY (1953)

No. of Parishes supplied	Consumer Classification		Business Premises	Total water Pumped
	Farms	Field troughs Dwelling Houses		
27	284	1,298	113	77,060,100

(E) SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

(iii) Plumbo Solvency.

There is no risk of plumbo-solvency — sampling of piped and private supplies throughout the District has proved these supplies to have a pH value well over 7.

Throughout the areas supplies are, for the most part, 'hard', the Council's own undertaking at Marton yields a water of some 28 degrees hardness (Clark's Scale) prior to softening. Water is softened by entirely automatic base exchange softeners and is distributed to consumers at 9 degrees.

It will be noted by reference to the tables on pages 15—17 the Council have now provided mains extension to almost every village within their Statutory area of supply. Quite apart from the advantage to public health this has proved a boon to agriculture. Farmers are becoming more conscious that pure and wholesome water is essential for the farming industry.

(iv) Contamination.

Apart from isolated cases of shallow well water contaminations which were revealed by routine water sampling, there were no serious cases of contaminated supplies during the year.

In these cases the provision of a piped water supply was secured after representation to the owners of the properties concerned.

(v) Inspections.

A total of 221 inspections were made to schemes of water supply, supply connections and works in progress (excluding visits and inspection by the Council's waterwork's foreman).

2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

346 inspections were made to works of drainage, sewerage and works in progress, in addition to which 187 "smoke tests" on new drainage works were carried out. 468 inspections were carried out on new building works. In spite of the very extensive post war programme of re-sewerage carried out by the Council a need still exists for improved sewers and/or new works to some 14 small villages to facilitate conversion works.

The Council have now approved of the purchase of a new cesspit emptying vehicle which, will have many uses in the out-lying areas and solve the difficulty of dealing with isolated properties.

3. RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Sewage works effluents, river and stream waters are sampled regularly in the Council's area by officers of the West Riding Rivers' Pollution Board.

No unsatisfactory samples were reported during the year.

4. CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Total number of closets in area	.....	4,697
Privies	.....	633
Pails or Tub Closets	.....	632
Water Closets	.....	3,432

Steady progress was made during the year in securing the conversion of pails and privies to waterborne sanitation, 60 were completed by the end of the year and a further 9 notices for conversion being outstanding.

Percentage of closets on watercarriage system is now 72 per cent.

Informal notices are served on owners to carry out conversions. The total number of pails and privies throughout the area is still high, but steady improvement is resulting from the Council's comprehensive Tutt Valley Sewerage Scheme being completed and a modern sewer being available to facilitate conversions. In the parishes now served by the new sewer the voluntary response from property owners is encouraging. Many more conversions would be done but for the prohibitive cost of building work.

It is hoped that the adoption of "Improvement" Grants to property by the Council will result in many more conversions being carried out.

The total number of inspections carried out in connection with privy conversions during 1953 totalled 121.

5. PUBLIC CLEANSING—HOUSEHOLD AND TRADE REFUSE

(a) Collection.

A 100 per cent. collection service has been maintained, every property throughout the district being visited at least once per fortnight. During the year a total of 26 informal notices were served requiring the provision of dustbins. Only 8 notices were outstanding at the end of the year.

Total number of Dustbins emptied	3,871
Pail Closets emptied	632
Privies emptied	633

Four 10 cu. yd. dustless loading collection vehicles are employed to maintain this service.

(b) Disposal.

Refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at two tips :—

- 1. Brickworks Yard, Green Hammerton.
- 2. Quarry, Lingerfield.

There was no tip firing during the year.

Monthly routine rodent control work is carried out at each tip by the Council's Rodent operative.

(c) Salvage.

The amount and value of materials recovered during the year was :—

1952	£	s.	d.	1953	£	s.	d.
Paper—				Paper—			
24 ton 14 cwt. ...	188	1	6	17 ton 2 cwt. 2 qtrs. 108 11 4	108	11	4
Metals—				Metals—			
12 ton 8 cwt. ...	92	12	8	18 ton 4 cwt. ...	73	9	7
Rags/Sacking—				Rags/Sacking—			
3 ton 5 cwt. ...	98	19	3	9 ton 8 cwt. 1 qtr. 159 12 8	159	12	8
Cullett—				Cullett—			
2 ton 2 cwt. ...	3	13	6	2 ton 4 cwt. ...	4	15	4
				Lead—			
				2 cwt. 3 stone ...	8	6	3
TOTAL	383	6	11	TOTAL	354	15	2

Note :—

- (a) The total estimated quantity of refuse collected and tipped during the year was 5,800 tons.
- (b) Average cost of "Collection and Disposal" per house, per year, was approximately 15/4d.

6. NOTICES SERVED.

(i) Nuisance Inspections.

Total number of inspections made in 1953					
for NUISANCES only	...	...	...	...	56
Nuisances found in 1953	...	...	...	...	34
Nuisances in hand at end of 1952	...	...	...	...	10
<hr/>					
Total needing abatement	44
Total abated during 1953	27
<hr/>					
Total outstanding at end of 1953	17
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(ii) Notices Served.

Total number of INFORMAL Notices served	56
Total number of INFORMAL Notices complied with	38
<hr/>						
Total number of INFORMAL Notices outstanding	...	...	...	...	...	18
<hr/>						
Total number of STATUTORY Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	5
Total number of STATUTORY Notices complied with	4
<hr/>						
Total number of STATUTORY Notices outstanding at end of 1953	1
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(iii) **Summary of Summonses or legal proceedings (excluding Town Planning Appeals).**

Action was taken by the Council in default when an owner of property failed to execute works enumerated on a STATUTORY NOTICE.

7. SMOKE ABATEMENT.

There are few "factories" within the area of Nidderdale Rural District Council being essentially rural in character, and there were no complaints during the year of smoke nuisances.

8. SWIMMING BATHS.

There are no public swimming baths in the area, and only 2 privately owned pools at :—

- (i) Three Arrows Hotel, Boroughbridge.
- (ii) The Hall, Thorpe Underwoods.

Routine chlorination and pressure filtration is carried out at both pools, which derive their water from the Council's water undertaking.

9. SHOPS ACT, 1950.

During the year 12 inspections were made at shops under the provision of the above-mentioned Acts.

Inspections dealing with the health and comfort of the Shop Assistants revealed unsatisfactory conditions existing at 2 shops. Action was taken by verbal notice, and both were complied with.

10. TENTS, VANS, SHEDS AND CARAVANS.

Number of Caravans, etc., licenced	33
Number of Camping Sites licenced	4

During the year 44 inspections were carried out and conditions were generally quite satisfactory.

(F)

HOUSING

Housing Statistics, 1953.

Total number of dwellings in the district		4,058
Total number of back to back houses in the district...		Nil
Inspections carried out during 1953 :—		
1.	(i) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts)	59
	(ii) Number of inspections made for the purpose	64
	(b) Total number of fresh houses found to be unfit for human habitation during inspections in 1953	Nil
	Houses found to be unfit prior to 1953 ...	289
	(c) Total number of fresh houses (excluding those under paragraph (b) above) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation during inspections in 1953 ...	15
	Houses found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for habitation prior to 1953	287
2.	Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of “informal” action by the Local Authority or their officers	18
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year.	
A	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 Housing Act, 1936 :—	
	(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
	(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
	(a) By owners	Nil
	(b) By Local Authority	Nil

B	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—				
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—				
(a)	By owners	...	...	...	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	Nil
C	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—				
(1)	Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling houses unfit for habitation	...	...	...	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	Nil		
(3)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders (Demolished against order made in 1937)	...	1		
D	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—				
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	Nil
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, the Closing Orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	Nil
4.	Housing Act, 1936—Part 4—Overcrowding.				
(a)	(1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	15
	(2)	Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	24
	(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	96
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year				3

(c)	(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	13
	(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	...	40

5. NEW HOUSES.

Number of new houses completed during the year :—

By the Local Authority —

Permanent type	...	...	...	...	36
Temporary type	...	...	...	...	Nil
By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	...	26
By Agricultural Workers' Grants	1
By Ministry of Works' Licences	Nil

Total	63
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6. Housing Act. 1949.

The Council have now agreed to adopt Section 20 "Improvement Grants" for Housing Accommodation, and to treat each individual application on its own merits.

(G) **INSPECTION AN SUPERVISION OF FOOD**

(a) **Milk.**

Total number of designated milk producers in the district.					
(i) "Accredited"	...	...	...	...	19
(ii) "Tuberculin Tested"	...	...	...	...	98
Total number of Cows in milk	...	...	...	...	4,520
Total number of Other Cattle	...	...	...	...	26,910
Number of milk samples taken by Officers of Local Authority					
(a) Methylene Blue Tests	...	...	...	...	12
(b) Presence of Tubercle bacilli,	Nil				
(c) Brucella abortus	...	...	...	...	10 (Satisfactory)
					2 (Unsatisfactory)

Routine sampling at farms of production is carried out by Officers of the West Riding County Council and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.
Estimated agricultural acreage of the District 59,734

(b) **Meat and Other Foods.**

There are 17 private slaughter houses in the Niddersdale Rural District, the practice of "Centralised Slaughtering" is in force at Starbeck (Harrogate) and York Government Slaughter Houses. The whole of the 50 parishes in this district are supplied from either York or Starbeck.

Food condemned during the year amounted to 2 cwts. 5 lbs. all of which was voluntarily "Surrendered." The food condemned was tinned foodstuffs from local grocery shops.

(c) **Food Preparation Premises.**

(i) Number of visits to shops, stalls and vehicles or places where food is prepared	...	...	...	57
(ii) Number of premises manufacturing ice-cream in accordance with Ice-cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947 and 1948	...	...	...	Nil

(d) **Food Poisoning Outbreaks.**

(i) Total number of outbreaks	...	...	...	Nil
(ii) Number of cases	...	...	...	Nil
(iii) Number of deaths	...	...	...	Nil

RODENT CONTROL.

In January, 1953 the Council resolved and received the approval of the Ministry of Food to employ their Rodent Officer on a full time basis.

During the past year this service has proved to be a very popular one and has been particularly welcomed by the farmers.

The work of the Rodent Officer has been concentrated on the inspection and treatment of farms, being the most likely reservoir of infestation in the Rural District, for which a minimum charge of 35/- is made irrespective of the size of the farm; whilst private dwelling houses are treated free of charge.

The following table serves to give an indication of the total number of properties inspected and subsequently treated.

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other (including business premises)	Total
1. Total number of properties in Local Authority's district	18	3,310	665	269	4,262
2. No. of properties inspected by the Local Authority during the year as a result of (a) notification (b) survey under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949. (c) otherwise e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose.	(a) —	22	23	11	56
	(b) 18	11	538	21	588
	(c) —	—	—	—	—
3. No. of properties inspected which were found to be infested by rats	Major 2	—	12	1	15
	Minor 2	23	116	9	150
4. No. of properties inspected which were found to be seriously infested by mice	—	—	—	—	—
5. No. of infested properties treated by the Local Authority	4	23	124	9	160

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1.—Inspections : For purposes of provision as to health (inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authority	5	5	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	100	49	5	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	105	54	5	—

2.—Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which Defects were found				Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspectors	By H.M. Inspectors	
Cleanliness 	7	7	—	—	
Overcrowding 	—	—	—	—	
Unreasonable Temp. 	—	—	—	—	
Inadequate Ventilation 	2	2	—	—	
Ineffective Drainage 	1	1	—	—	
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	
(b) Defective 	10	10	—	—	
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—	
Other Offences 	—	—	—	—	
Totals ...	21	21	—	—	Nil

